

REDUCED SIZE GRAVIMETRIC BLENDER

Abstract

A gravimetric blender of a reduced size mounted to be directly over the feed trough of small molding machines or extruders. The blender has an upright hollow rectangular frame with a transparent panel. The top of the frame forms a cradle for removably supporting a plurality of hoppers having a bottom discharge controlled by a valve mechanism. The valve mechanism is mounted on each hopper and is connected to a control station having a quick-disconnect fitting on the hopper. The hoppers discharge sequentially into a weigh bin supported on a load cell connected to the control station of the blender. The weigh bin has an openable bottom portion pivotally mounted thereon for actuation by the control station when the appropriate weight is registered by the load cell. The weigh bin discharges into a mixing chamber having an agitator or mixer removably mounted therein. The mixer is journaled for rotation in the transparent panel which is removable so that when the panel is removed, the mixer agitator is disengaged from its drive and removed with the panel.